

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A female screw mechanism in which an insert formed by coiling a wire having a rhombic cross section is attached to a female screw of a component, wherein the diameter of at least one turn at one end of the insert on the side for the insertion of a male screw into the insert is smaller than the diameter of the male screw so as to adhere to the male screw and generate a loosening prevention force, the diameter of the remaining part of the insert is larger than the diameter of the male screw, and the other end of the insert is fixed to a part of the component.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~nut having the~~ female screw mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the component it is a nut.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut~~ female screw mechanism according to claim 2, wherein the other end of the insert is fitted in a depression in the nut for use as means for fixing the insert to the
nut.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut~~ female screw mechanism according to claim 2, further comprising means for fixing the insert to the the nut, wherein the means for fixing the insert to the nut is integrating means such as welding or adhesive bonding.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~nut~~ female screw mechanism according to claim 2, further comprising means for fixing the insert to the the nut, wherein the means for fixing the insert to the nut is a frictional force between the insert and the female screw.